



**Ms. Adrienne Montani**, Executive Director  
First Call Child and Youth Advocacy Society  
3381 Cambie St #328, Vancouver, BC  
V5Z 4R3  
*Via Email*

June 4, 2025

Ms. Montani,

I am writing today to express my appreciation and thanks for the valuable support you provided for my private Member's bill, C-291, that received Royal Assent on October 10, 2024, and will come into force the first anniversary of the royal assent (October 10, 2025).

Passage of this bill set in motion the strengthening of the *Criminal Code* and other Acts by replacing the term “child pornography” with “child sexual abuse and exploitation material.”

Initially tabled in June 2022, C-291 was carried through the Parliamentary legislative process with unanimous support of Parliamentarians of the Upper and Lower Houses. When the bill was before the House of Commons then Senate standing committees that reviewed it, I was asked whether I had consulted with organizations such as yours and what responses had I received. Your written support issued March 21, 2024, for C-291 helped to establish the support from Parliamentarians that was required for the bill's passage, and I thank you for your support.

C-291 represents a small but very important change to Canada's statutes, and much work remains to be completed to increase protection for children, in Canada and abroad, from sexual abuse and exploitation.

Although I was the sponsor of C-291, it was initially drafted by my colleague Mr. Frank Caputo, Member of Parliament for Kamloops—Thompson—Nicola, who served as a Crown prosecutor for a decade before being elected to the House of Commons. While a Crown prosecutor, M.P. Caputo prosecuted extensively around internet offences against children and sexual offences against children, particularly production, distribution and possession of child sexual abuse and exploitation material and internet luring.

With the commencement of the 45th Parliament of Canada, Parliamentarians have opportunities to introduce legislation and your support for bills that seek to enhance child protection can once again assist us, as legislators, garner the support required to progress legislation.

Again, thank you for your support for C-291 and for the ongoing work of First Call Child and Youth Advocacy Society as you fight to protect children.

Sincerely,

**Mel Arnold, Member of Parliament**  
Kamloops—Shuswap—Central Rockies

Cc:

Mr. Frank Caputo, M.P. for Kamloops—Thompson—Nicola